Credit Options for Undergraduate Research & Scholarship

Students involved in research or creative projects under the direction of a faculty mentor can enroll in courses that give them academic credit for engagement in such projects. Students can enroll in zero* or more credit hours, depending on time commitment and the amount of work necessary for the research. This is generally described by a dialogue between students and their faculty mentors. How faculty mentors conduct credit-hour options may vary and may not reflect the means by which traditional courses are conducted. Grading for a research-related credit option may include a letter grade or satisfactory/unsatisfactory determination.

Common Names of Credit Options for Undergraduate Research

- Directed Independent Research (4912)*
- Honors in the Major Courses (3970H, 4970H, 4903H, 4904H)**

Typical Steps in the Process of Enrolling in Credit Options for Undergraduate Research

1. Identify faculty mentor and confirm placement on a project
2. Discuss appropriateness and number of credit hours for the project with faculty mentor
3. Obtain necessary forms from department or college***
4. Obtain mentor's approval and signatures on credit enrollment forms
5. Return necessary credit enrollment forms to the department or college
6. Consult department or college for next steps in the enrollment process

PLEASE NOTE: Not all departments and colleges have forms for enrolling in credit options for research. Additionally, not all departments and colleges have the same enrollment processes. In any case, students should discuss such options with their faculty mentors and department coordinators.

* The zero credit hour option is only available for courses ending in 4912; students can enroll in 4912 for multiple and/or subsequent semesters.
** These courses are restricted to HIM students and require Burnett Honors College approval.
*** Necessary forms can be granted to either students or faculty depending on college/department protocol. Forms for HIM must be obtained from and returned to the Burnett Honors College.